

LEARNER SHEET: DO NOT COVET

Matthew 6:19-21



THE BIG IDEA

We honor God when we are content with what we have and help others keep what they have.

BIG FUN IDEA

Watch *Affluenza* (KCTS and Oregon Public Broadcasting, 1997; available at www.bullfrogfilms.com). Help young people understand this is not a problem they created; it is a larger problem facing the world. Talk about little steps you might all take together to work toward a solution in which we care for what we have rather than covet what we don't have.

BIG SERVING IDEA

Plan a way to gather money for a disaster response organization. Determine what you can offer—work, service, or food—and tell people you'll donate all the money to the organization you've named. Think of the story of the laborers when people decide what they can pay you. Send the money or requested items for Lutheran World Relief Health Kits or School Kits that you purchase with the donations.

PRAYER TIME

Remember your partner's prayer needs—record them here.

DISCUSSION TIME

- **What modern-day equivalents of oxen and manservants do we covet?**
- **What have you been tempted to want so much it could be seen as coveting?**
- **What would be on a list of things you said in the last week that started with, "I wish I had..."? Categorize these as "needs" and "wants."**
- **What did you learn about Lutheran World Relief (or other disaster response organizations) that surprised you?**

LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: DO NOT COVET

Matthew 6:19-21



Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

PRAYER TIME

As you read a paper, watch TV news, or check news online this week, make a list of every story about suffering or conflict. Post your list in a place where your family can see it, and remember to pray for these people.

TALK TIME

- Write a family definition of coveting. What is included? How would you explain it to your friends?
- Make a list of every thing and experience you would like to have as a family. Then sort the list into needs and wants. What criteria did you use to sort? How do you prioritize your wants? How will you balance your wants with others' needs?
- Talk about a time you as individuals and/or as a family were really content. What factors led to this state of mind? How might you "practice contentment" today, both individually and as a family?

KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

CONTENTMENT
COOPERATION
ALTRUISM
BENEVOLENCE



WEB TIME

Sit down together to explore the Web site for Lutheran World Relief (www.lwr.org). What kinds of work does this organization do? Who do they help? What are their goals and guiding principles? How can you get involved?

RITUAL TIME

Buy a Sunday newspaper and cut out headlines and pictures of people suffering from war, disease, famine, and natural disasters. Gather around an unlit candle. Read the headlines aloud. Look at the pictures and pause for reflection. Light a candle in the quiet to honor and remember the suffering of people for whom self-denial is not a choice but has become a fact of life. Sit quietly. Pray the Lord's Prayer together.